

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 STR-04 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 IGA-01 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 654

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KHARTOUM 2628

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EEC, SU

SUBJECT: EEC AID TO SUDAN

REF: KHARTOUM A-57, JUNE 9, 1975

1. EEC DELEGATION HEADED BY MR. KROHN, EC COMMISSION DIRECTOR GENERAL OF DEVELOPMENT, VISITED SUDAN NOV. 3-9 TO DISCUSS IMPLEMENTATION OF ECONOMIC AID PROVISIONS OF LOME AGREEMENT. FROM EMBASSIES OF EEC MEMBER COUNTRIES, WE UNDERSTAND "AGREED MINUTE" VALID FOR FIVE YEARS HAS BEEN SIGNED (FORMAL AGREEMENT NOT FEASIBLE UNTIL LOME CONVENTION IS RATIFIED BY ALL EEC MEMBER COUNTRIES) PROVIDING FOR "STABEX" GRANT AID TO SUDAN OF UP TO \$80 MILLION PLUS DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE TOTALLING SOME \$40 MILLION FOR PROJECTS SUCH AS CULTIVATION OF COTTON IN WESTERN SUDAN AND COFFEE AND RICE IN SOUTHERN REGION. SUDAN THUS TO BE OF OF PRINCIPAL BENEFICIARIES OF EEC AID, THOUGH THIS POINT IS NOT TO BE PUBLICLY EMPHASIZED. EEC IS TO OPEN PERMANENT MISSION IN KHARTOUM EARLY IN NEW YEAR.

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2. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH AID MIGHT BE DELAYED IN COMING

AND SPREAD OVER NUMBER OF YEARS, SIGNIFICANCE TO SUDAN
IS NONETHELESS SUBSTANTIAL. STABEX FUND IS OF
PARTICULAR INTEREST, SINCE MANY OF SUDAN'S CHRONIC
FOREIGN EXCHANGE PROBLEMS RELATE TO UPS AND DOWNS
IN COMMODITY EXPORT EARNINGS. FOR EXAMPLE, WE
ESTIMATE FOR COTTON ALONE SHORTFALL IN EXPORTS TO
EEC COUNTRIES WILL TOTAL AT LEAST \$41.6 MILLION IN
1975. FACT THAT EEC STABEX GRANT TO SUDAN COULD
TOTAL FOURTH OF ALLOCATION TO AFRICA AND THAT THIS
NEW AID WOULD SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT, BILATERAL
AID FROM EEC COUNTRIES (WHICH, IN CASE OF FRG, U.K.
AND HOLLAND IS SIZABLE) SUGGESTS THAT EUROPEANS GIVE SUDAN
POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE MORE RELATED
TO ITS POTENTIAL AS SUPPLIER OF PRIMARY PRODUCTS TO EUROPE
THAN TO ITS POPULATION, ECONOMIC NEED (UNLIKE OTHER
AFRICAN COUNTRIES, SUDAN HAS BENEFITTED FROM MAJOR ARAB
AID), OR RECENT ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH EEC MEMBER COUNTRIES.
BREWER

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